

DIAA APPROVED POLICIES and PROCEDURES

The following policies and procedures were approved by the DIAA Board of Directors and will be in effect for the current school year.

APPEAL OF ONE GAME SUSPENSION [Regulation 1007, 2.3.1]

In some sports, a coach or player can be ejected for a violation of the playing rules that is not sportsmanship related. A rules violation that is technical in nature and does not involve physical or verbal misconduct may not necessarily be a sportsmanship violation. If such an ejection occurs, the President/Incidents Coordinator of the officials' association or the Athletic Director/Principal of the offending school should notify the Executive Director as soon as possible. The Executive Director will investigate the incident and make a concerted effort to resolve the situation prior to the next contest for which the suspended coach or player would ordinarily be eligible. If, however, the Executive Director is unable to make a decision before the next contest, the suspension remains in effect. **Under no circumstances will a suspended coach or player be allowed to participate or even be present at the game site while his/her appeal is being adjudicated. The Executive Director's decision to uphold or rescind the one-game suspension is final.** If the Executive Director is out of town or unavailable to make a ruling, the appeal may be directed to the Chairperson of the DIAA Board of Directors.

BENCH PERSONNEL RULE

Any player who leaves the team bench area and enters the playing field, court, or mat during a fight or other physical confrontation and is identified by the game officials shall be ejected from the contest. Any player who commits such an offense and is ejected by the game officials shall also be ineligible for the next contest at that level of competition and all contests at any other level of competition in the interim. Additional penalties may be imposed if a player leaving the bench area becomes involved in the altercation.

HEAD COACH ENTERING PLAYING AREA DURING ALTERCATION

If a fight breaks out during the game, each **head coach** may immediately enter the playing area in order to restrain, separate, or remove any of his/her players who are involved in the altercation. **ONLY** the **head coaches** may enter the playing area without being beckoned by the contest officials.

CUMULATIVE UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT RULE

A coach who is guilty of repeated acts of unsportsmanlike conduct during a season shall be ineligible for the next contest. (at the same level of competition in which the most recent violation occurred and all contests at any other level of competition in the interim) When he/she has been assessed the penalties or committed the infractions listed below.

- Football - three (3) unsportsmanlike conduct penalties
- Soccer* - three (3) yellow cards
- Field Hockey - three (3) yellow cards or any combination of five (5) green & yellow cards.
- Volleyball - three (3) red cards or any combination of five (5) yellow & red cards
- Basketball - three (3) direct technical fouls
- Wrestling - three (3) unsportsmanlike conduct penalties
- Baseball - three (3) bench confinements
- Softball - three (3) bench confinements
- Boys' Lacrosse - three (3) unsportsmanlike conduct fouls; or any combination of five (5) conduct and unsportsmanlike conduct fouls
- Girls' Lacrosse - three (3) yellow cards

*Soccer has adopted a cumulative unsportsmanlike conduct penalty for players. Soccer Officials must report ALL cards (yellow and red) assessed to players & coaches

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THUNDER AND/OR LIGHTNING POLICY

The DIAA Board of Directors has adopted the NFHS Guidelines on Handling Contests During Lightning Disturbances as their official policy. Please refer to your sport specific Rule Book for these Guidelines or from the NFHS website at <http://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/guidelines-on-handling-practices-and-contests-during-lightning-or-thunder-disturbances/> The basic premise of this Policy is as follows: The site management or the contest officials, if they have assumed control of the game, will stop the game at the first sound of thunder, or observation of cloud to ground lightning. The playing area will be cleared and all participants and spectators will be advised to seek shelter. The contest will not be resumed until **30 minutes** after the last clap of thunder was heard or flash of lightning was seen.

PROHIBITION AGAINST USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Contest officials shall not use any tobacco products from the time they arrive at the game site until after they depart from the game site when officiating any event sanctioned by the Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association. Smoking on all state property (public schools) is prohibited by law.

REQUESTS FOR ACCOMODATIONS FOR MEDICAL OR RELIGIOUS REASONS

Each state association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. The accommodations should not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athlete/others or place opponents at a disadvantage. The school must request a review of the proposed rule accommodation by contacting the DIAA office or that sport's rules interpreter. DIAA will rule on the legality of the accommodation, if approved the school needs to keep the approval letter on file and the Coach needs to take a copy of the approval letter with them to EVERY contest and surrender a copy of the letter to the Game Officials.

FAILURE TO PROVIDE GAME BALL(S) WITH NFHS MARK

Game balls used at the varsity level in all sports for which the NFHS publishes playing rules must be imprinted with the NFHS authenticating mark. There are no exceptions to this requirement. Tennis balls and golf balls are not required to be imprinted with the aforementioned mark.

If the team that is responsible for providing the game ball(s) does not have one that is properly marked, the officials should use the opposing team's ball(s) provided it is properly marked. If neither team has a ball(s) that is properly marked, the officials must allow the game to be played and then contact their Incident Coordinator who must, in turn, contact the DIAA office. Failure to use a ball(s) with the NFHS authenticating mark in a varsity game will result in the offending school being assessed a penalty as determined by the Executive Director.

USE OF INTRA-ORAL TOOTH AND MOUTH PROTECTOR

The wearing of a protective mouth guard shall be mandatory for anyone participating in the following sports: football, soccer, boy's lacrosse, wrestling, volleyball, field hockey, basketball, softball, baseball and girl's lacrosse who is wearing a metal dental appliance such as braces. The intra-oral tooth and mouth protector (mouth guard) shall be of any readily visible color (Please refer to sport specific policies regarding the use of white or clear mouth guards.) It shall include an occlusal (protecting and separating the biting surfaces) and labial (protecting the teeth and supporting structures) portion and cover the posterior teeth with adequate thickness. Simply stated; if an athlete has metal braces, he/she must wear a top and bottom mouth guard.

Revised 9/2016

DIAA Water Break Stoppage Policy for Game Competition

In continuous play sports such as soccer, field hockey, and girls' lacrosse, when the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature [WBGT] reaches 89.6 degrees, or the combination of temperature and humidity equals 160 when added together, a water break shall be given, at the midway point of each half {20 minutes for soccer, 15 minutes for field hockey and 12.5 minutes for Girls' Lacrosse}. These breaks shall be a minimum of a 3 minutes and a maximum of 5 minutes. Referees will retain the right to enact the policy as they feel conditions may warrant.

Stoppages shall be called using the following procedure:

- The Policy will be announced in the Pre-Game Meeting to Coaches so they know to expect the stoppage.
- The stoppage will be called as close to the midway point in time as possible.
- The ball must be in the attacking team's defensive half.
- The team in possession must not be in an attack/scoring situation.
- After a goal would be the optimum time.

Strongly Suggested stoppage points are as follows:

Soccer

- After a goal
- A throw in from the attacking team's defensive half
- Before a goal kick

Field Hockey

- After a goal
- Penalty Corner
- 16yard hit coming out of the circle
- Free hit by Defense in their half of the field

Girls' Lacrosse

- After a goal
- 8 meter free possession
- A throw by the defense in their half of the field
- Free position by the defense in their half of the field

State Association [DIAA] adoption of NFHS playing Rules

DIAA CROSS COUNTRY RULES ADOPTIONS/MODIFICATIONS

3-2-1 The administrative body is the games committee. The games committee is responsible for the proper conduct of a track and field or cross country meet. The games committee may consist of:

- a. An individual (meet director or referee) in dual meets.
- b. State Association appointed individuals for qualifying and final state meets.
- c. Selected individuals for large invitational meets.

This committee also may serve as the jury of appeals.

The DIAA Board of Directors has designated the DIAA Cross Country Committee as the games committee for the state meet.

9-2-3 By state association adoption, a modified scoring system may be used.

The DIAA Board of Directors has approved the use of modified scoring in invitational and championship meets so that all schools entered will post a team score regardless of the number of runners who finish. Modified scoring is not permitted in dual or triangular/quadrangular meets which are scored as dual meets. The approved modified scoring procedure is as follows:

If a team has fewer than five (5) runners who finish, the team will be given a "blind" score for each non-finisher. For example, if team A enters only three runners (places 2-9-26) and there are 115 contestants in the race, team A will post a score of 270 (places 2-9-26-116-117).

9-5 A cross country team shall consist of seven members unless otherwise agreed. In meets with four or fewer schools, each school is permitted to enter a maximum of 12 competitors unless otherwise agreed by the competing schools or state association, but only the first seven on each team shall enter into the scoring.

The DIAA Board of Directors has not adopted any guidelines regarding the number of competitors that a school may enter in meets with four or fewer schools. A school may enter a maximum of 12 competitors in such meets unless by mutual agreement of the competing schools, the number of competitors is modified. Regardless of the number of competitors entered, only the first seven runners on each team will determine the team score.

DIAA FIELD HOCKEY RULES ADOPTIONS/MODIFICATIONS

1-5-1 m By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.

Requests to wear a commemorative or memorial patch on the jersey must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director who will evaluate each request on its merits and respond in writing.

1-6-6 Each state association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. The accommodations should not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athlete/others or place opponents at a disadvantage.

If a player needs a medical or religious accommodation, his/her head coach or athletic director must contact the Executive Director in order to obtain clearance for the player to participate in a scrimmage or a game with the accommodation. The Executive Director will attend a practice session and inspect the accommodation. If, in his opinion, the accommodation is not dangerous to other players and it does not place an opposing player at a disadvantage, nor give the player an advantage, then it will be approved for use. The Executive Director will forward a letter to that effect to the player's athletic director. The letter should then be provided to the officials before each game in which the player is in uniform.

2-1-2a The official's uniform shall consist of: A shirt approved by the state association; **NOTE:** May be of a solid color contrasting with the color of both teams' uniform tops or alternating black-and-white 1-inch vertically striped shirt.

The DIAA Board of Directors has given permission to the Delaware Field Hockey Umpires' Association and the Southern Delaware Field Hockey Officials' Association to wear a solid colored shirt (purple, teal, yellow, pink, or orange) that contrasts with the uniform tops of the participating teams as long as both Officials match by wearing the same colored shirt.

4-1-3 Unless other state association rules apply, any tournament game interrupted due to events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be completed as follows:

- If interrupted during the first half, the game shall be resumed at the point of interruption;
- If it is determined at halftime, or if interrupted after the start of the second half, the game could be resumed at the point of interruption or by mutual agreement be considered a completed game.

There are no additional DIAA guidelines pertaining to interrupted games. Consequently, the aforementioned rule will be applied exactly as written. If the game is to be replayed or resumed at the point of interruption, it should be rescheduled for the next available date and will be considered a postponed contest with regards to DIAA Regulation 1008 4.3.1 and 1009 4.3.1 Maximum Game Schedules and Designated Sport Season.

4-2-2 Note By state association adoption, the clock may continue to run after goals when one team is ahead by a specified number of goals, or alternate game ending procedures may be established after having completed the first half.

The DIAA Board of Directors has approved the running clock modification when there is a FIVE (5) goal differential at any time in the second half of play, at all levels. They did not approve an early game termination procedure.

4-2-4 Note Some state associations may choose to define a physician in accordance with their state statutes.

The DIAA Board of Directors has defined a Concussion Protocol for all cases that involve apparently unconsciousness, unconscious or concussed athletes. Only a physician (MD/DO) as defined by Delaware law and licensed by the Division of Professional Regulations may authorize, in writing, the player to resume participation.

6-1-5 The team scoring the greater number of goals shall be declared the winner. During regular season play if the score is tied at the expiration of playing time, the game shall be declared a tie or broken by the procedure adopted by the state high school association.

The DIAA Board of Directors has mandated the use of the following regular season tie-breaking procedure in all varsity games at the high school level:

There will be a five-minute intermission between the end of regulation play and the overtime period. Substitutions may be made at this time. The overtime period will not exceed 15 minutes in length and the first team to score a goal will be declared the winner (sudden victory). A coin toss will be held and the winner will choose either first possession of the ball or goal to defend. Each team will field a goalkeeper and six (6) additional players. All game rules, including substitutions, shall apply except as specified below:

- 1) No additional team time-outs will be granted during the overtime period. Any unused team time-outs from regulation time may be used during the overtime period; and*
- 2) Only four (4) players including the goalkeeper may be behind the goal line on penalty corners.*

During all "reduced player" overtime play: (1) a player receiving a red card in regulation play may not play in the overtime period. A team playing short in regulation play because of a disqualified player shall play short in the overtime period; (2) A team may begin the overtime period with fewer than the number of players designated by the procedure; (3) If a player(s) was suspended (yellow card or green card), the team shall play short until the suspension time is completed; and (4) If a player receives a red card during the overtime period, the team shall play short until the game is completed.

If neither team has scored at the conclusion of 15 minutes of overtime play, the game will officially end in a tie.

If a DIAA member school is playing out of state and the host school's state athletic association has mandated the use of an overtime procedure, then the host state's procedure will be in effect for that game. If the same out-of-state school is playing in Delaware, the DIAA approved overtime procedure will be in effect. The mandatory use of the aforementioned overtime procedure should be explained to the visiting team and included in the "Specific Agreements" section of the game contract.

No tie-breaking procedures will be used in sub-varsity games at the high school level or in any games at the middle school level.

DIAA FOOTBALL RULES ADOPTIONS/MODIFICATIONS

- 1-1-4 Note Each state association may determine the number of game officials to be used.
- The contract between DAAD, acting on behalf of all DIAA member schools which sponsor football, and the football officials associations (Northern Delaware Football Officials' Association and the Delmarva Football Officials' Association) obligates both associations to provide five officials for high school varsity games and three officials for high school sub-varsity and middle school games. This agreement also establishes the fee per official that the member schools are obligated to pay at the different levels of competition. Additional officials, if requested by a conference or host school, will be paid the fee indicated by contracted agreement for the desired level of competition. However, an officials' association may donate an additional official on the field provided the participating schools do not object to a six/seven-man (varsity) or four-man (sub varsity) crew*
- 1-3-1 Note By state high school association adoption, the ball to be used in games involving only players below the 9th grade may have dimensions as found in the following table: (table lists weight, long circumference, long axis, short circumference and inflation pressure for balls used in high school and middle school competition)
- The DIAA Board of Directors has approved the use of a smaller football for middle school games (grades 6 thru 8). The smaller football must meet the specifications stipulated in Table 1-3-1 on page 15 of the 2016 NFHS Football Rules Book.*
- 1-3-2 Note By state high school association adoption, a specific ball which meets specifications may be mandated for post-season or state play-off competition.
- The DIAA Board of Directors has designated the Nike Vapor One [official NFHS] as the official game ball for both the Division I and Division II Football State Championships. Consequently, no other football may be used during any state tournament game. The DIAA Football Committee will provide at least three Nike Vapor One footballs for each state tournament game.*
- 1-3-7 Supplementary equipment to aid in game administration may be used if authorized by the state association.
- Requests to use supplementary equipment must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director who will evaluate each request on its merits and respond in writing.*
- 1-5-1b (2e Note) By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.
- Requests to wear an American flag and either a commemorative or memorial patch on the jersey must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director who will evaluate each request on its merits and respond in writing.*
- 1-6-1 Note Each state association may authorize the use of a drum by a team composed of deaf or partially deaf players in order to establish a rhythmic cadence following the ready-to-play signal.
- Not applicable to any DIAA member schools. No DIAA Board action taken.*
- 1-7 Each State Association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique circumstances. The accommodations should not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athletes/others or place opponents at a disadvantage.

The DIAA Board has established the following procedure for schools to request an accommodation based on disability, and/or a special need. The athletic director must contact either the DIAA State Rules Interpreter (Andy Bero) or the Executive Director in order to obtain clearance for the player to participate in a scrimmage or a game with the accommodation. The State Rules Interpreter or the Executive Director will inspect the accommodation. If, in their opinion the accommodation meets the rule above, it will be approved for use. The Executive Director will forward a letter to that effect to the player's athletic director. A copy of the letter should then be provided to the officials before each game in which the player is in uniform.

- 3-1-1 By state association adoption, if, at the end of the 4th period, the teams have identical scores, the tie may be resolved if a method has been approved by the state high school association. This may include extending playing time. The overtime is considered part of the fourth period.

The DIAA Board of Directors has mandated the use of the 10-yard line overtime procedure, as stipulated on pages 84-85 of the 2017 NFHS Football Rules Book, for all varsity contests. Subvarsity games are to end in a tie.

- 3-1-2 By state high school association adoption, a point differential may be established whereby if one team has gained the established point differential, the game shall be terminated. A state association may also establish guidelines to use a running clock when the point differential is reached.

The DIAA Board of Directors has authorized the use of the running clock option as described below.

If, at any time during the second half, one team is leading its opponent by 35 or more points, the timing procedures will be modified as listed below.

1. *The clock will be stopped only in the following instances:*
 - a. *A charged time-out.*
 - b. *An officials' time-out for safety reasons, i.e. player appears to be injured, unusual heat or humidity creates health risk for players, player needs equipment repair, non-participant enters playing field, or other situations deemed to be safety related.*
 - c. *An official's time-out to administer a penalty.*
 - d. *A one-minute intermission between the third and fourth periods.*
2. *If the differential is reduced to fewer than 35 points, regular timing procedures will again be used.*

Note: This rule modification does not preclude the use of Rule 3-1-3 which reads "A period or periods may be shortened in any emergency by agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, any remaining periods may be shortened at any time or the game may be terminated."

- 3-1-4 Games interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be continued from the point of interruption unless the teams agree to terminate the game with the existing score, or there are conference, league or state association rules which apply.

The DIAA Board of Directors has not taken any action on this provision and consequently, there are no state association guidelines pertaining to interrupted games. In the absence of state association rules, conference guidelines would apply and in the absence of any conference rules, the opposing schools would have to decide before leaving the game site whether the game would be resumed from the point of interruption or terminated with the existing score.

- 3-1-5 Note 1 By state high school association adoption, games involving combinations of 9th grade students with students in the 8th and/or 7th grades may be played in 10-minute periods.

Not applicable to any DIAA member schools.

- 3-1-5 Note 2 State high school associations may determine the length of halftimes, provided it is not less than 10 minutes and not more than 20 minutes.

*The DIAA Board of Directors has determined that the length of the intermission during a regular season game will be in accordance with Table 3-1 on page 40 of the 2017 NFHS Football Rules Book. *Special note is to be given to the Mandatory Three-minute warm-up Period. The DIAA Football Committee will determine the length of the intermission during a playoff game.*

- 3-2-1 Each half of the game shall be started by a kickoff. Before the scheduled game starting time the referee, in the presence of the field captains, shall toss a coin which the visiting captain shall call. If the coin toss, or simulated coin toss, is held on the playing field, it shall be held three minutes prior to the scheduled game starting time, or as otherwise specified by individual state associations.

The coin toss will be held three minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the game.

- 3-5-7k An officials' time-out (which is not charged to either team) occurs during a dead ball:
For a TV/radio time-out that is permitted and granted as authorized by state association policy.

The DIAA Board of Directors has not authorized television/radio time outs during either regular season or state tournament games.

Officials Manual General Reminders 8 & 9

The DIAA Board has approved the wearing of a two-inch black and white striped shirt, black shorts and full-length, black pants with a 1.25 inch white vertical stripe as a substitute for white shorts and traditional white knickers. This is provided that ALL crew members are dressed exactly alike.

DIAA SOCCER RULES ADOPTIONS/MODIFICATIONS

4-2-1h Exception (2) By state association adoption, players may wear soft and yielding caps during inclement weather. Caps must be alike in color.

The DIAA Board of Directors has approved the wearing of soft and yielding caps during inclement weather provided the caps are of the same color.

4-2-5 Each State Association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique circumstances. The accommodations should not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athletes/others or place opponents at a disadvantage.

The DIAA Board has established the following procedure for schools to request an accommodation based on disability, and/or a special need. The athletic director must contact either the DIAA State Rules Interpreter (John Brady) or the Executive Director in order to obtain clearance for the player to participate in a scrimmage or a game with the accommodation. The State Rules Interpreter or the Executive Director will inspect the accommodation. If, in their opinion the accommodation meets the rule above, it will be approved for use. The Executive Director will forward a letter to that effect to the player's athletic director. A copy of the letter should then be provided to the officials before each game in which the player is in uniform.

5-1-1 Note If a state high school association chooses not to select a particular officiating system, competing schools may do so by prior mutual agreement.

The DIAA Board of Directors does not mandate the use of one particular officiating system during the regular season. The contract between DAAD on behalf of all DIAA member schools which sponsor either boys' or girls' soccer and the softball officials associations (Delaware Soccer Officials' Association and the Diamond State Soccer Officials' Association) obligates both associations to provide a minimum of two officials for all sub-varsity and varsity contests. However, a conference, or in non-conference games, the host school could request the local chapter provide an additional official and the game(s) could be officiated by a three-person crew using the diagonal system. Provision of a third official is contingent upon the local officials' association's ability to provide sufficient qualified officials. Local officials' associations may elect to provide a third official at the cost of two officials. Arrangements to use the three-man diagonal system must be agreed upon by the host school's athletic director, with the concurrence of the opposing school, and the officials' association assigner prior to the day of the game. In the absence of an agreement the dual officiating system would be used.

5-1-3a The officials shall be dressed alike in uniforms primarily consisting of:
A shirt approved by the state association; in the event of a color conflict between the officials and either team, the officials shall change to a jersey of a color distinct from both teams.

The DIAA Board of Directors has given permission to the Delaware Soccer Officials' Association and the Diamond State Soccer Officials' Association to wear a vertically striped black and white shirt, a solid black shirt with white collar and cuffs, or a solid colored shirt other than black (fuchsia, orange, or yellow) with contrasting collar and cuffs, provided the color contrasts with the jerseys of the competing teams. The Associations are also authorized to use the same shirts used by USSF Officials.

5-1-3f Unless otherwise prohibited by the state association, electronic communication devices may be used by officials to communicate.

The DIAA Board has not taken action on this article.

- 6-2-1 The home school timer shall be the official timer. However, by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches or by state high school association adoption, the official time may be kept by the head referee.
- The DIAA Board of Directors has designated the head referee as the official timer for all regular season and State Tournament contests.*
- 6-3-1 The home school shall designate the official scorer. However, by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches or by state high school association adoption, the official score may be kept by the head referee.
- The DIAA Board of Directors has designated the head referee as the official scorer for all regular season contests. The Boys' or Girls' Soccer Committee will provide the official scorer in all state tournament games.*
- 6-3-3 By state association adoption, a fourth official may be appointed to assume the duties of the scorer. The fourth official is under the jurisdiction of the head referee and performs those duties as assigned.
- The DIAA Board of Directors has taken no action on this provision. Consequently, the referee is the official scorer (6-3-1). The Boys' or Girls' Soccer Committee will provide the official scorer in all state tournament games.*
- 7-1-1 Two equal halves of 40 minutes each shall be played unless, by state high school association adoption, four equal quarters of 20 minutes each are specified. It is recommended junior high schools play 30-minute halves unless by state high school association adoption, four equal quarters of 15 minutes each are specified.
- The DIAA Board of Directors has not approved the playing of four equal quarters of 20 minutes at the high school level or four equal quarters of 15 minutes at the middle school level. Therefore, high school and middle school games will consist of two equal halves of the appropriate length.*
- 7-1-2 Periods may be shortened by state high school association adoption, or if mutually agreed upon or in any emergency, by agreement of the coaches or ordered by the head referee, provided it is determined to shorten the periods before the game or before the second half begins and all remaining periods are the same length.
- The DIAA Board of Directors has not adopted any guidelines for shortening the length of periods. However, periods may be shortened in accordance with the provisions of this rule.*
- 7-1-3 In the event a game must be suspended because of conditions which make it impossible to continue play, the head referee shall declare it an official game if one complete half or more of the game has been played. If less than one half of the game has been played, the game may be rescheduled from the start, or restarted from the suspension of play according to state association adoption.
- The DIAA Board of Directors has determined that a game which is interrupted during the first half will be replayed from the start. The game should be rescheduled for the next available date and will be considered a postponed contest with regards to DIAA Regulation 1008 4.3.1 (middle school/junior high) or DIAA Regulation 1009 4.3.1 (high school) Maximum Game Schedules and Designated Sport Season.*
- 7-1-5 By state association adoption, a goal differential may be established whereby at the end of the first half if one team has gained the established goal differential or if it secures such differential during the second half, the game shall be ended.

The DIAA Board of Directors has taken no action with regards to establishing a goal differential which would result in a game being ended before the normal expiration of the second half. Therefore, no game will be ended before the normal expiration of the second half unless suspended as per NFHS Soccer Rule 7-1-3.

7-3-1 Regular season games which are tied at the end of 80 minutes of play may be resolved by procedures adopted by state high school associations.

See 7-3-1 Note below.

7-3-1 Note No overtime procedures shall exceed 20 minutes of play during the regular season.

The DIAA Board of Directors has authorized the use of the following regular season tie-breaking procedure for ALL regular season varsity matches;

There will be a five-minute intermission between the end of regulation play and the first ten-minute sudden victory overtime period. A coin toss will determine which team will kick off. All game rules will be in effect. The first team to score in overtime will be declared the winner. If neither team has scored after 10 minutes of play, there will be a two-minute intermission and then the teams will play a second and final 10-minute sudden-victory overtime period. The loser of the coin toss prior to the first overtime will kick off to start the second overtime. If the game is still tied after two overtime periods, it will officially end in a draw.

12-8-1 Note By state association adoption, incidental use of vulgar or profane language may be a disqualification (red card).

The DIAA Board of Directors has approved the disqualification for vulgar or profane language.

12-8-3 Note The rules committee strongly recommends that recommends that each state high school association adopt a policy wherein a disqualified player or coach disqualified under articles 2 and 3 shall be barred from participating in the next contest(s).

The DIAA Board of Directors has authorized a procedure which requires any player or coach ejected from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct also be ineligible to participate in the next contest at any level.

DIAA VOLLEYBALL RULES ADOPTIONS/MODIFICATIONS

- 1-2-3 Note 1 By state high school association adoption, teams may play a best two-of-three set match in which a team is considered the winner of the match when it wins two sets. All sets shall be 25 points (no cap). The third game shall not be played unless it is necessary to determine the winner of the match. If a third set is necessary, a coin toss shall be conducted prior to that game.

The DIAA Board of Directors has NOT approved the use of 2 out of 3 matches at the varsity level.

- 1-2-3 Note 2 By state high school association adoption, modification of match format is permitted for series other than dual varsity matches.

The DIAA Board of Directors has approved the use of 2 out of 3 matches at the sub-varsity level.

- 1-7-1 If a match is suspended due to:

- a. Power failure;
- b. Host management failing to resolve a situation of an unruly spectator(s) in a reasonable amount of time;
- c. Other unforeseen circumstances.

It may be resumed from the point of suspension unless the state association determines otherwise. When play is resumed, the score and lineup shall be the same as they were at the moment of suspension.

A match which is interrupted for any of the aforementioned reasons will be resumed from the point of interruption unless the opposing schools decide, before leaving the playing site, to consider it a completed match. If the match is to be resumed, it should be completed on the next available date and would be considered a postponed contest with regards to DIAA Regulation 1008 & 1009 4.3 Maximum Game Schedules and Designated Sport Season.

- 1-7-2 Unless state association rules determine otherwise, a match shall be declared a forfeit when:

- a. A team refuses to play when directed to do so by the first referee;
- b. A coach is removed from the premises for unsportsmanlike conduct and no authorized school personnel is present to assume responsibility for the team.

There are no DIAA regulations which would preclude the forfeiture of a game in the aforementioned circumstances. In a. above, the offending team would be required to forfeit the game. In b. above, the offending team would be required to forfeit the game and match.

- 1-7-4 Unless state association rules determine otherwise, a set shall be declared a forfeit when a team has fewer than six players to start the match.

There are no DIAA regulations which would preclude the forfeiture of a game in the aforementioned circumstances. In the situation above, the offending team would be required to forfeit the game.

- 4-1 Notes 2 Each state association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique circumstances. The accommodations should not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athletes/others or place opponents at a disadvantage.

The DIAA Board has established the following procedure for schools to request an accommodation based on disability, and/or a special need. The athletic director must contact either the DIAA State Rules Interpreter (Kelly Callahan) or the Executive Director in order to obtain clearance for the player to participate in a scrimmage or a game with the accommodation. The State Rules Interpreter or the Executive Director will inspect the accommodation. If, in their opinion the accommodation meets the rule above, it will be approved for use. The Executive Director will forward a letter to that effect to the player's athletic director. A copy of the letter should then be provided to the officials before each game in which the player is in uniform.

5-1-1 Note Line judges, unless determined otherwise by state association policy, shall be provided by the host school.

The DIAA Board has approved the procedure that each school will provide a line judge for all matches. Additionally, the visiting school will provide a libero tracker at the scorers' table, if their school uses a libero, and the home team school does not. ALL Officials will be properly trained by their respective school.

5-9-4 Flags shall be used by line judges for signals, unless determined by the state association to use hand signals

The DIAA Board has NOT taken any action on this article.

6-2-1 A team shall consist of six players to begin the first game of the match. If a team has fewer than six players to begin the match, a forfeit shall be declared unless state association rules determine otherwise.

There are no DIAA regulations which would preclude the forfeiture of a game in the aforementioned circumstances. In the situation above, the offending team would be required to forfeit the game.

9-1-2 Note By state association adoption, teams may remain on the same benches throughout the match.

The DIAA Board of Directors has not adopted this provision and consequently, teams will change playing areas and benches for the second game of any 2-out-of-3 game match and for the second, third, and fourth games of any 3-out-of-5 game match.

9-2-1 Note A team may use electronic devices during the match. State associations may also have policies in place to further address the use of electronic devices.

The DIAA Board has NOT taken any action on this article.

9-2-2 For sets two, three and four in a five-set match, teams shall change playing areas and benches immediately when directed by the referee unless state association rules determine otherwise.

There are no DIAA regulations which would modify these procedures.

9-2-2 Note In a three-set match, teams shall change playing areas and benches for set two.

There are no DIAA regulations which would modify these procedures. See Rule 9-1-2 Note above.